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JAN 29 1993

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93010842

TO Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

DATE Jan. 25, 1993

Cable Network News
Atlanta, GA 30335

SUBJECT

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FEB - 8 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I enclose herewith copy of letter I wrote to the OCALA STAR BANNER, our
MARION COUNTY FLORIDA Newspaper today.

I would appreciate your comments on the complaints against CVI in Ocala, Fla.

Yours very truly,



Col. Grover Criswell

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John H. May

I am writing to you in response to the
Cable companies. I have Storer cable company of
South Broward County, Florida. I think they charge
outrageous prices for cable. For basic cable I am paying
\$30⁰⁰ a month. I think that is way too much
for basic cable. I would please like the FCC to
check into this. The FCC must regulate prices for
the Storer cable company. It is getting out of this
world.

Thank You

Crystal D Stout

7221 Hayes St.

Hollywood, FL 33024

MAIL BRANCH
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MR. & MRS.

CHARLES NITZSCHKER

92-266

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

7440 NW 35th Street, Lauderhill, FL 33319

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FILE

January 25, 1993

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Cable TV Companies

Dear Sirs:

we are writing to you in response to an article in the Miami Herald, on January 25, 1993, advising that the "FCC is rewriting regulations for cable companies and welcomes comments from the public".

When we moved from New York to Florida in 1986 we were delighted that our cable company, American Cable, offered the "BRAVO" and "ENCORE" channels and we subscribed to them. Later, American Cable was taken over by Continental Cable Co., which discontinued these two channels since, according to them, "not enough viewers are interested in them". However, these two channels offer programs of a much higher cultural standard than 90% of the other channels, and we very much resent not being able to receive them, only because the cable company in our region claims they are not lucrative to them.

In our opinion it should be more important to the cable companies to offer more valuable and educational programs to the public than to fill their coffers ! Also, it does not seem right that one cable company has a monopoly in a certain area when the viewers could get programs of interest to them from another cable company located only a few blocks away.

If you can do something to correct this situation, we - and other disgruntled viewers - would be forever grateful.

Yours very truly

Charles and Suse Nitzschker
Charles and Suse Nitzschker

shn:ss

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Salt Springs, Fl 32134
Jan. 25, 1993

Editor
Ocala Star Banner
Ocala, Fl 34470

JAN 29 1993

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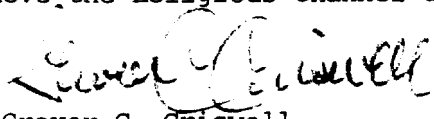
Every Cable Company in about 75% of the U.S. used the lull before the new Federal Cable Regulations go into effect to jack up the prices, and of course our CVI fell right into the majority line as usual. While I don't like the fact that they joined the "Price Gouge", I could probably overlook further trumpeting the fact if I were not so incensed over their schedule changes.

Said Schedule change moved CNN from channel 13 to 15, thus making CNN unavailable to anyone who has an old TV set, because the available channels only go to 13. I called the company (CVI) and suggested that maybe this was a breach of contract with all of us who expected to be able to get CNN News on a continuing basis when we signed up before Jan. 1, 1993. I was told that the company could change anything they wanted, that there was no contractual obligation with any of us about what channels would be located where, and if I had a set that wouldn't get more than 13 channels, we....all I had to do was "rent" a special box for a few dollars more a month. What a sneaky lousy trick to get another few "bucks" out of us, and most especially those folks who can afford it the least. There must be dozens of retirees, and low income people, maybe hundreds or even thousands who have older sets and would like to continue to get CNN without being hit for extra charges.

Come to think of it, wonder if the FCC and CNN itself knows what a rotten deal we folks here in Marion County are getting on this "Early 1993 reaming" ??

I used to like to record parts of CNN and watch them later. No more....you can't do that now.

I'm going to send a copy of this letter to the FCC and CNN Home Offices in Atlanta, but I'd also like to see what others in Marion County think about this, and what CVI has to say. Maybe someone in their "top Level" and hopefully more intelligent (and maybe more compassionate) executive offices will see fit to change CNN back to channel 3 to 13 status. Seems to me like maybe the CNN News station is more educational and necessary than the "Home Shopping" Channel. Bet they wouldn't have dared to move the Religious Channel up from 12 to 15! ??


Grover C. Criswell
Salt Springs, Fla

GCC*hs

P.S. CVI said in their recent brochure that "minor changes in the channel lineup are necessary to introduce the new Basic Reception Service". Of course the new "Basic Reception Service" does not include CNN anyway, or I would switch to that. Maybe leaving CNN out of the BRS service is intentional again to "shaft" news-lovers!

THE CITY OF

MANHATTAN
KANSAS

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The
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Apple



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January 25, 1993

Office of the Secretary of the FCC
1919 M Street, Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Secretary:

The following comments are being presented on behalf of the City of Manhattan regarding the newly adopted Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992. As the local franchising authority, the City would like to make the following comments regarding rate regulation and FCC Certification.

1. The City strongly urges that the FCC follow a benchmarking approach to local rate regulation. Under this approach, the FCC would establish a benchmark rate which would be the average rate Cable Television systems could charge for basic service in markets where there is cable competition. Using this approach, cable systems would be forced to reduce their rates to the benchmark level unless they could provide that higher rates were justified under standards established by the FCC. This approach would greatly help Kansas cities, and especially Manhattan, in that effective competition is almost nonexistent within our State.
2. We strongly suggest that the FCC develop a simple process in which local rate proceedings would be streamlined to allow for a cost effective and easy to administer process. By implementing this type of process, the FCC will be doing a great service to cities in Kansas which may not have the resources to follow a highly complex process. In the same light, we ask that the procedure developed for filing and approving of FCC Certification be made as simple and inexpensive as possible, to level the playing field with large, well financed cable companies.

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Donna L. Searcy
Page 2
January 25, 1993

Again, Madam Secretary, the City of Manhattan urges you to strongly consider the comments made by us and by other smaller cities. It is our hope that you outline procedures which are favorable to the cable consumer, as was intended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992. Please feel free to contact my office if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Pearson", written over a horizontal line.

James R. Pearson
City Manager

ls
93015

cc: Don Moler, League of Kansas Municipalities

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T.W. Li

FEB - 1 1993

INDEPENDENT PRODUCER

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

11 CASTLETON STREET BOSTON MA 02130 617/522-8373

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January 20, 1993

JAN 29 1993

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Ms. Donna Searcy, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Comments in MM Docket 92-266

Dear Ms. Searcy:

The FCC requested comment on whether it should establish preferential leased access channel rates for not-for-profit programmers. (NPRM paragraph 153.) I strongly urge the FCC to set preferential non-profit rates for leased access channels.

My work involves media in the non-profit sector for the purpose of public service.

Commercial networks are not capable of serving the community needs of the locally based programmers like myself.

New non-profit networks and local channels would be able to expand the availability of programs aimed at meeting the needs of under-served communities with cultural, informational and educational programming. There could be an expansion of programming geared towards the elderly and minority communities that are mostly ignored by commercial networks.

Of course, the emergence of these services would rely on the ability to gain access to these "leased access" channels through low rates.

Congress mandated "leased access" channels to insure the diversity of information sources for the public. Non-profit programmers are uniquely capable of meeting this need.

Sincerely,

T.W. Li

T.W. Li

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**New England
Foundation for the Arts**

678 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

617 492-2914

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A regional organization
developing the arts in
New England with
funding from the
National Endowment
for the Arts, the state
arts agencies and
leading corporations.

January 21, 1993

**Ms. Donna Searcy
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554**

RE: COMMENTS ON MM DOCKET 92-266

Dear Ms. Searcy,

This letter is in response to the FCC's request for comment ^{FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION} ~~OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY~~ should establish preferential "leased access" channel rates for not-for-profit programmers (NMRP paragraph 153).

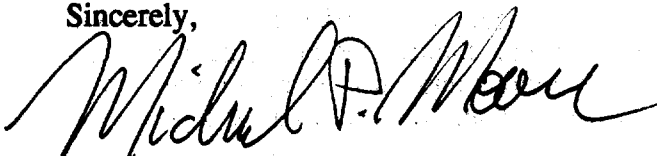
The New England Foundation for the Arts is a private, non-profit regional arts organization offering financial support and technical assistance to artists and presenters in order to further the performing, visual, literary and media arts in the New England region, and to allow our region's audiences to gain further access to these art forms.

Among several other programs, the Foundation produces and distributes "Mixed Signals," a seven-program showcase of short works by independent film and video artists. Currently, "Mixed Signals" is broadcast annually on more than 200 public access channels through a unique arrangement with SportsChannel New England. Because of the challenging, sometimes experimental nature of these works, commercial networks are not interested in serving the community needs of the audiences, locally-based programmers and artists we represent via "Mixed Signals."

New non-profit networks and local channels would be able to expand the availability of programs such as "Mixed Signals," which serves a diverse population interested in vital and thought-provoking television. Under-represented communities--such as the elderly and many ethnic groups--would welcome more of the educational and cultural programs offered by such networks and channels.

Of course, the emergence of these programs would rely on the ability to gain access to these leased access channels through low rates. Congress mandated leased access channels to ensure the diversity of information sources for the public. As the success of "Mixed Signals" and other quality, alternative programs have proved, non-profits are uniquely capable of meeting this need. Thus, the New England Foundation for the Arts urges the FCC to set preferential non-profit rates for leased access channels.

Sincerely,



**Michael P. Moore
Deputy Director, New England Foundation for the Arts
Executive Producer, "Mixed Signals"**

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